Docket No.: 55190-012

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1643

Examiner: To be assigned

In re Application of

Josee HAMEL, et al.

Serial No.: 09/471,255

Filed: December 23, 1999

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

For:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL, & EMERY

Robert L. Price

Registration No. 22,685

600 13<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 RLP:mcm **Date: November 16, 2000** 

Facsimile: (202) 756-8087